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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

49474 7590 05/05/2006

LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL DRYJA
704 228TH AVE NE
#694
SAMMAMISH, WA 98074

EXAMINER

BULLOCK JR, LEWIS ALEXANDER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2195

DATE MAILED: 05/05/2006

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/045,925 | 01/09/2002 | Thomas B. Berg | BEA920000022US1 | 3051 |
| TITLE OF INVENTION: DISTRIBUTED ALLOCATION OF SYSTEM HARDWARE RESOURCES FOR MULTIPROCESSOR SYSTEMS | | | | |

| APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE | PUBLICATION FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE |
|----------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional | NO | \$1400 | \$300 | \$1700 | 08/07/2006 |

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

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If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail** Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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P.O. Box 1450
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CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

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| (Depositor's name) |
| (Signature) |
| (Date) |

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/045,925

01/09/2002

Thomas B. Berg

BEA92000022US1

3051

TITLE OF INVENTION: DISTRIBUTED ALLOCATION OF SYSTEM HARDWARE RESOURCES FOR MULTIPROCESSOR SYSTEMS

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nonprovisional

NO

\$1400

\$300

\$1700

08/07/2006

| EXAMINER | ART UNIT | CLASS-SUBCLASS |
|----------|----------|----------------|
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BULLOCK JR, LEWIS ALEXANDER

2195

718-104000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,

(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

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☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)

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☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

☐ The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Date _____

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EXAMINER

BULLOCK JR, LEWIS ALEXANDER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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DATE MAILED: 05/05/2006

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 941 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 941 day(s).

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| nonprovisional | NO | \$1400 | \$300 | \$1700 | 08/07/2006 |

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| BULLOCK JR, LEWIS ALEXANDER | 2195 | 718-104000 |

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EXAMINER

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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/045,925

Examiner

Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.

Applicant(s)

BERG ET AL

Art Unit

2195

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to response filed September 13, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-9,11,13,14,16-18 and 20-23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☒ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____


LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Dryja on November 23, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

The claims are amended to correct proper 35 U.S.C. 112, 6th paragraph "means for" language and antecedent basis issues.

Claim 20 (Amended) In a multiprocessor computer system comprising a plurality of processing nodes; a shared, distributed system memory; and a central hardware device comprising a communications pathway connecting said processing nodes; wherein each one of said processing nodes includes at least one processor; and a portion of said shared system memory coupled to said processor and said communication pathway; said communications pathway comprised of communications ports each dedicated to communicating with one of said processing nodes wherein said communications pathway is separate from and interconnects said processing nodes and is further comprised of a tag and address crossbar to communicate tag and address information, and a data crossbar means [to communicate] for communicating

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data within the system; a method for handling tagging and addressing within the system comprising the steps of:

- a first node communicating to said tag and address crossbar, a request for a transaction in the system;

- allocating a transaction identifier in the tag and address crossbar for use by the identified transaction;

- conveying said transaction identifier to [the] an originating node;

- attaching said transaction identifier to [the] said transaction; and

- communicating said transaction from the first node to the originating node which receives the transaction directly through said data crossbar means.

Claim 22 (Amended) In a multiprocessor computer system capable of being partitioned into one or more independently functioning processing systems comprising:

- a plurality of processing nodes, each node capable of operating independently;

- a shared, distributed system memory;

- and a communications pathway which interconnects said plurality of processing nodes;

- wherein each one of said processing nodes includes at least one processor and a portion of said shared system memory coupled to said processor and said communication pathway, and said communication pathway is comprised of a central crossbar including tag and address means [to communicate] for communicating the identification of data transactions being processed through the system connected to

said plurality of processing nodes, said tag and address means including means [to store] for storing information related to the identification of data including the target location for said data; and means [to define to] for defining which memory location in one or more of said nodes, said data should be sent; the central crossbar interconnecting the nodes and is separate from the nodes;

a method for handling a request from a requestor node of the system to a target node of the system comprising the steps of:

- the requestor node sending a request to the central crossbar;
- the central crossbar allocating a resource to receive results of the request at the target node;
- the central crossbar assigning an identifier to the request;
- the requestor sending the results to the target node; and
- the target node receiving the results directly into the resource without intermediate buffering of the results at the target node.

Amend the specification, as detailed and indicated in the response filed September 13, 2005 to correct the status of co-pending applications.

Page 1,

- Line 1, Add ", U.S. Patent 6,523,362," **after** "Berg et al."
- Line 4, Add ", U.S. Patent 6,973,544," **after** "Berg et al."
- Line 8, Add ", U.S. Patent 6,785,779," **after** "Berg et al."
- Line 12, Add ", still pending," **after** "Lloyd et al."

- Line 15, Add ", U.S. Patent 6,795,889," **after** "Berg et al."
- Line 18, Add ", U.S. Patent 6,910,108," **after** "Downer et al."

Page 2,

- Line 1, Add ", still pending," **after** "Berg et al."
- Line 4, Add ", U.S. Patent 6,823,498," **after** "Downer et al."
- Line 7, Add ", U.S. Patent 6,934,835," **after** "Downer et al."
- Line 10, Add ", U.S. Patent 6,938,077," **after** "Downer et al."

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims are allowable for at least the following reasons: All of the claims detail a central crossbar or a communications pathway having a crossbar(s) comprising a resource allocator that is capable of allocating resources of a target node to a requestor node. None of the prior art of record, either newly or previously cited, detail the crossbar having a resource allocator or performing a resource allocating function to a target node's resources. The prior art of record at best teaches nodes using a crossbar for accessing or using resources of a target node wherein the target nodes controls the access of its resources. The prior art of record does not allude to the crossbar performing the controlling of the resources as detailed in the claims. Therefore, the claims are allowable over the cited prior art of record.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3759. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

November 28, 2005


LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

NOTICE OF DRAFTSPERSON'S PATENT DRAWING REVIEW

The drawing(s) filed (insert date) 01/09/2002 are:

- A. ☒ approved by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152.
B. ☐ objected to by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152 for the reasons indicated below. Corrected drawings are required.

1. DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.84(a): Acceptable categories of drawings: Black ink or Color (3 sets required).

☐ Color drawings are not acceptable until petition is granted. Fig(s) _____

☐ Pencil and non black ink not permitted. Fig(s) _____

2. PHOTOGRAPHS. 37 CFR 1.84(b)

☐ One (1) full-tone set is required. Fig(s) _____

☐ Photographs may not be mounted. 37 CFR 1.84(e)

☐ Photographs must meet paper size requirements of 37 CFR 1.84(f). Fig(s) _____

☐ Poor quality (half-tone). Fig(s) _____

3. TYPE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(c)

☐ Paper not flexible, strong, white, and durable.

☐ Fig(s) _____

☐ Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not accepted.

☐ Fig(s) _____

4. SIZE OF PAPER. 37 CFR 1.84(f): Acceptable sizes:

☐ 21.0 cm by 29.7 cm (DIN size A4) or

☐ 21.6 cm by 27.9 cm (8 1/2 x 11 inches)

☐ All drawing sheets not the same size.

☐ Sheet(s) _____

☐ Drawings sheets not an acceptable size. Fig(s) _____

5. MARGINS. 37 CFR 1.84(g): Acceptable margins:

☐ Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm

☐ Margins not acceptable. Fig(s) _____

☐ Top (T) _____ Left (L) _____

☐ Right (R) _____ Bottom (B) _____

6. VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(h)

REMINDER: Specification may require revision to correspond to drawing changes, e.g., if Fig. 1 is changed to Fig. 1A, Fig 1B and Fig. 1C, etc., the specification, at the Brief Description of the Drawings, must likewise be changed.

☐ Views not labeled separately or properly.

☐ Fig(s) _____

7. SECTIONAL VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3)

☐ Sectional designation should be noted with

☐ Arabic or Roman numbers. Fig(s) _____

8. ARRANGEMENT OF VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(i)

☐ Words do not appear on a horizontal, left-to-right fashion when page is either upright or turned so that the top becomes the right side, except for graphs. Fig(s) _____

9. SCALE. 37 CFR 1.84(k)

☐ Scale not large enough to show mechanism without crowding when drawing is reduced in size to two-thirds in reproduction.

☐ Fig(s) _____

10. CHARACTER OF LINES, NUMBERS, & LETTERS. 37 CFR 1.84(l)

☐ Lines, numbers & letters not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable, and black (poor line quality). Fig(s) _____

11. SHADING. 37 CFR 1.84(m)

☐ Solid black areas pale. Fig(s) _____

☐ Solid black shading not permitted. Fig(s) _____

12. NUMBERS, LETTERS, & REFERENCE

CHARACTERS. 37 CFR 1.84(p)

☐ Numbers and reference characters not plain and legible. Fig(s) _____

☐ Figure legends are poor. Fig(s) _____

☐ Numbers and reference characters not oriented in the same direction as the view. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(1) Fig(s) _____

☐ English alphabet not used. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(2)

☐ Fig(s) _____

☐ Numbers, letters and reference characters must be at least 32 cm (1/8 inch) in height. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3). Fig(s) _____

13. LEAD LINES. 37 CFR 1.84(q)

☐ Lead lines missing. Fig(s) _____

14. NUMBERING OF SHEETS OF DRAWINGS.

37 CFR 1.84(t)

☐ Sheets not numbered consecutively, and in Arabic numbers beginning with number 1. Sheet(s) _____

15. NUMBERING OF VIEWS. 37 CFR 1.84(u)

☐ Views not numbered consecutively, and in Arabic numerals, beginning with number 1. Fig(s) _____

16. DESIGN DRAWINGS. 37 CFR 1.152

☐ Surface shading shown not appropriate.

☐ Fig(s) _____

☐ Solid black surface shading is not permitted except when used to represent the color black as well as color contrast. Fig(s) _____

COMMENTS:

Reviewer SON LAM

If you have questions, call (703) 305-8404.

305-0333 (EXT. 133)

Date 11/21/2005

Attachment to Paper No. _____

| | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Examiner-Initiated Interview Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/045,925 | BERG ET AL | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. | 2195 | |

All Participants:

(1) Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.

(2) Michael Dryja.

Status of Application: _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

Date of Interview: 23 November 2005

Time: _____

Type of Interview:

- ☒ Telephonic
☐ Video Conference
☐ Personal (Copy given to: ☐ Applicant ☐ Applicant's representative)

Exhibit Shown or Demonstrated: ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, provide a brief description:

Part I.

Rejection(s) discussed:

Claim objections and 112 rejections

Claims discussed:

20 and 22

Prior art documents discussed:

None

Part II.
SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW DESCRIBING THE GENERAL NATURE OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED:

Applicant agreed to amend the claims as detailed in the examiner's amendment to correct 112 sixth paragraph objections and 112 second paragraph antecedent basis issues.

Part III.

- ☒ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview directly resulted in the allowance of the application. The examiner will provide a written summary of the substance of the interview in the Notice of Allowability.
☐ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview did not result in resolution of all issues. A brief summary by the examiner appears in Part II above.


 (Examiner/SPE Signature)

 (Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature – if appropriate)

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|-------------|
| Notice of References Cited | Application/Control No. 10/045,925 | | Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination BERG ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. | | Art Unit 2195 | Page 1 of 1 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| * | | Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code | Date MM-YYYY | Name | Classification |
|---|---|--|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| * | A | US-6,892,259 | 05-2005 | Goodrum et al. | 710/244 |
| * | B | US-6,910,108 | 06-2005 | Downer et al. | 711/141 |
| * | C | US-6,882,649 | 04-2005 | Gura et al. | 370/395.42 |
| * | D | US-6,484,220 | 11-2002 | Alvarez et al. | 710/46 |
| * | E | US-5,418,967 | 05-1995 | Simcoe et al. | 710/241 |
| * | F | US-6,763,418 | 07-2004 | Chou et al. | 710/317 |
| * | G | US-6,892,259 | 05-2005 | Goodrum et al. | 710/244 |
| * | H | US-5,313,641 | 05-1994 | Simcoe et al. | 710/242 |
| * | I | US-5,208,914 | 05-1993 | Wilson et al. | 710/39 |
| * | J | US-6,956,851 | 10-2005 | McKeown et al. | 370/369 |
| * | K | US-6,360,291 | 03-2002 | Tavallaei, Siamak | 710/306 |
| * | L | US-6,260,174 | 07-2001 | Van Loo, William C. | 714/811 |
| * | M | US-5,854,906 | 12-1998 | Van Loo, William C. | 710/110 |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| * | | Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code | Date MM-YYYY | Country | Name | Classification |
|---|---|--|-----------------|---------|------|----------------|
| | N | | | | | |
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NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

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*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

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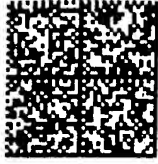
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